GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
DEFENCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1038
ANSWERED ON:22.07.2016
Purchase of Ultra Light Howitzers from US
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Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has finalized on purchasing 'Ultra Light Howitzers' and 'Dhanush artillery guns' from the US;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the expected timeline and estimated expenditure for procurement of these items;

(c) whether the Defence Acquisition Council has cleared several proposals for acquisition of weapons, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether Ordnance Factory at Kolkata is engaged in manufacturing 'Dhanush artillery guns' indigenously, if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI MANOHAR PARRIKAR)

(a) & (b): Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) has been accorded for the procurement of 155mm / 39 Calibre Ultra-Light Howitzers from USA under US Foreign Military Sales route at an approximate cost of USD 737 million. There is no proposal for purchasing 'Dhanush artillery guns' from the US.

(c) Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) has accorded Acceptance of Necessity for 101 proposals of Capital acquisitions for defence services during the years 2014-15 and 2015-16.

(d) An indent has been placed on OFB Kolkata, for procurement of 155mm / 45 Calibre Dhanush Artillery Guns, at an approximate cost of Rs.1261.44 Crore.

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